

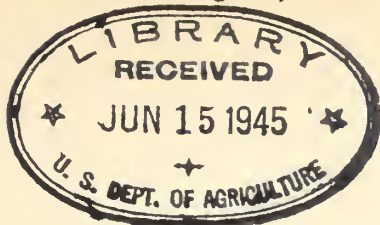
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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Soil Conservation Service
Washington, D. C.



March 17, 1943
FIELD MEMORANDUM SCS #1086

Re: Transfer of Title 111
Lands for Military
Purposes

TO ALL RANKING FIELD OFFICERS:

The policy for making Title 111 lands available to the War Department was outlined in Mr. A. E. Jones' letter of July 23, 1942. Since that letter was written, a number of instances have occurred where Title 111 lands were required in the war effort for bombing practice fields, aerial machine gunning ranges, emergency landing fields, recreational grounds, and other temporary uses which did not require any construction work. In some cases, the use of land by the War Department was delayed unnecessarily, and in other cases the lands were used without authority because of the time required to effect the transfer through the offices of the Secretaries. These conditions make it desirable to change the present procedure.

In the future, Regional Conservators may authorize the War Department to use Title 111 lands for a temporary or interim period. This permission may be granted to the Division Engineer of the War Department or his authorized representative for the duration or such time as may be necessary, or for the interim period prior to clearance through the offices of the Secretaries, or the signing of an Executive order.

The permit should include a description of the area, the purpose for which the land is to be utilized, the period for which it is made available, and such provisions as may be necessary to protect the land and surrounding area from damage by forest or grass fires and excessive erosion. The permit should be furnished to the War Department in triplicate and a copy should be submitted to the Chief, Land Management Division, Washington, D. C.

If permittees are deprived of the use of Title 111 lands which they were using under preference permits, and other suitable lands cannot be made available to them, a statement to that effect should be included in the permit, with the recommendation that consideration be given by the War Department to compensating the permittee through the provision of Public Law No. 663 - 77th Congress.

When the use proposed by the War Department is of a character requiring considerable development, such as in connection with Ordnance depots and shell loading plants, or if the War Department or this Service desires a commitment from a higher authority, the request will be handled through the offices of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of War.

AE Jones

Acting Chief

